

Claim ~~142.51~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction,  
comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and  
a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first time interval is an overtime trigger interval  
representing a time interval during which an overtime condition can cause extension of a closing  
time;

81 b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time  
interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance  
with said determination.

Claim ~~143.52~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction,  
comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and  
a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said second time interval is an overtime extension  
interval representing a time interval to extend a closing time;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time  
interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

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Claim ~~144~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

E1 a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids;

assigning an ordinal rank to each bid from a best bid to a worst bid; and

receiving a bid having an ordinal rank that is within a predefined number of rank ordinal positions of best bid;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

E2 Claim ~~146.5~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids each having a bid price;

ordering each bid from a best bid price to a worst bid price; and

receiving a bid having a bid price within a predefined price of said best bid price;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

56  
Claim 147. (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids each having a bid price;

ordering each bid from a best bid price to a worst bid price; and

receiving a bid having a bid price within a predefined percentage of said best bid price;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

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Claim ~~148~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises receiving a bid from a predefined bidder;

E 2  
b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~150.59~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

E 3  
a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a first set of bids;

determining a first frequency for said first set of bids; and

receiving a second set of bids at a second frequency;

- E3
- b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and
  - c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.
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Claim ~~152~~ 61 (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

- E4
- a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids from a group of bidders;

generating a statistical analysis parameter for said received bids; and

matching said statistical analysis parameter with a predefined statistical analysis

parameter;

- b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and
- c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~153~~ 62 (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids from a bidder;

generating a statistical analysis parameter for said received bids; and

matching said statistical analysis parameter with a predefined statistical analysis parameter;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim 154.1<sup>3</sup> (Amended)

[The method of claim 139, further comprising:] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval;

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination;

d) modifying at least one of said first time interval, said second time interval and said first overtime condition; and

e) performing (b) and (c) using said at least one modified first time interval, second time interval and first overtime condition.

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Claim ~~155~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139, further comprising:] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval;

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination;

d) defining a third time interval, a fourth time interval, a second overtime condition and a second closing time for a second lot;

e) determining whether said second overtime condition occurs during said third time interval; and

f) extending said second closing time using said fourth time interval if said second overtime condition occurs.

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Claim ~~156~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first lot comprises at least one of a custom industrial product and material, and at least one of said first time interval, said second time interval and said first overtime condition is defined in accordance with said at least one of a custom industrial product and material;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Ek  
Claim <sup>66</sup>~~157~~ (Amended)

[The method of claim 139,] A method to control overtime in an electronic auction, comprising:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids each having a bid price;

ordering each bid from a best bid price to a worst bid price; and

receiving a bid having a bid price other than said best bid price;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~161~~<sup>67</sup> (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

ES a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first time interval is an overtime trigger interval representing a time interval during which an overtime condition can cause extension of a closing time;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~162~~<sup>68</sup> (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said second time interval is an overtime extension interval representing a time interval to extend a closing time;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

<sup>69</sup>  
Claim ~~163~~: (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

ES a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids;

assigning an ordinal rank to each bid from a best bid to a worst bid; and

receiving a bid having an ordinal rank that is within a predefined number of rank ordinal positions of best bid;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~165~~: <sup>71</sup> (Amended)

EC [The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids each having a bid price;

ordering each bid from a best bid price to a worst bid price; and

receiving a bid having a bid price within a predefined price of said best bid price;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

<sup>72</sup>  
Claim ~~166~~: (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids each having a bid price;

ordering each bid from a best bid price to a worst bid price; and

receiving a bid having a bid price within a predefined percentage of said best bid price;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

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Claim ~~167~~ (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

- 66
- a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises receiving a bid from a predefined bidder;
  - b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and
  - c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~169~~<sup>75</sup> (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

- 67
- a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:
    - receiving a first set of bids;
    - determining a first frequency for said first set of bids; and
    - receiving a second set of bids at a second frequency;
  - b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

E7 c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

Claim ~~171~~ 77 (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids from a group of bidders;

generating a statistical analysis parameter for said received bids; and

E8 matching said statistical analysis parameter with a predefined statistical analysis parameter;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

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Claim ~~172~~ (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids from a bidder;  
generating a statistical analysis parameter for said received bids; and  
matching said statistical analysis parameter with a predefined statistical analysis  
parameter;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time  
interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance  
with said determination.

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Claim ~~173~~ (Amended)

ES  
[The machine-readable medium of claim 158, further comprising] A machine-readable  
medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by  
performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and  
a first closing time for a first lot;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time  
interval;

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance  
with said determination;

d) modifying at least one of said first time interval, said second time interval and  
said first overtime condition; and

e) performing (b) and (c) using said at least one modified first time interval, second time interval and first overtime condition.

<sup>80</sup>  
Claim ~~174~~. (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158, further comprising] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

ES a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot;

b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval;

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination;

d) defining a third time interval, a fourth time interval, a second overtime condition and a second closing time for a second lot;

e) determining whether said second overtime condition occurs during said third time interval; and

f) extending said second closing time using said fourth time interval if said second overtime condition occurs.

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Claim ~~175~~: (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first lot comprises at least one of a custom industrial product and material, and at least one of said first time interval, said second time interval and said first overtime condition is defined in accordance with said at least one of a custom industrial product and material;

68 b) determining whether said first overtime condition occurs during said first time interval; and

c) extending said first closing time using said second time interval in accordance with said determination.

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Claim ~~176~~: (Amended)

[The machine-readable medium of claim 158,] A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to control overtime in an electronic auction, by performing:

a) defining a first time interval, a second time interval, a first overtime condition and a first closing time for a first lot, wherein said first overtime condition comprises:

receiving a plurality of bids each having a bid price;

ordering each bid from a best bid price to a worst bid price; and

receiving a bid having a bid price other than said best bid price;